

Relationship between depression and non-adherence to anticoagulant therapy after valve replacement

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In this study, the effect of depression on adherence to drug therapy and to a clinic visit schedule was evaluated in 62 patients who underwent prostheses. All were prescribed a once-per-day regimen of warfarin and were scheduled for three appointments at the anticoagulant clinic for dose adjustment at 3-week intervals. According to the Center for Epidemiological Studies depression scale, 22 cases were suffering from depression. Non-depressed patients were more compliant than the depressed ones. Adherence was inversely correlated with the depression scores. While, depression had no relationship with age, sex and cardiac symptoms. There was a relationship with anxiety and poor social support.